Volunteering for stronger societies through innovation and cross-sector collaboration

09-10 MAY2012

Danish Parliament
Copenhagen
Denmark
Voluntary and private company collaboration
This workshop will focus on the collaboration between companies and voluntary organisations, and will present good practices and experiences with a focus on new tools and ideas to set up cross-sector projects.

Voluntary and public sector collaboration
This workshop will explore collaboration between local municipalities/institutions and voluntary organisations, and will present practice and experience on possibilities and challenges that collaboration brings.

Social Ventures2200 a cross-sector partnership in practice
Socialventures2200 is a social enterprise in the heart of Copenhagen aiming at enhancing inclusion and employment through social entrepreneurship. The focus will be on both cross-sector partnership and social entrepreneurship.

Service Learning and collaboration between NGOs and schools/colleges/universities
Several European countries have implemented a Service Learning program, which overall is an initiative where students, during their high school period, participate in a program to explore opportunities for successful cooperation and will raise awareness about the need for more European exchange on service learning initiatives.

Academic research and the voluntary sector: Innovating volunteering through academic studies
This workshop will tackle ways in which researchers, practitioners, and policy makers throughout Europe can work more closely together to ensure that research on volunteering is of the greatest possible benefit. It will also explore the demand for a European-wide network of researchers focusing on volunteering.

Transfer to the Folketing (The National Parliament of Denmark)
Reporting on the workshops and local projects in the plenary

Coffee break

Reflective debate: What is the next step for me in order to develop collaboration?
Organisations that work with volunteers and organisations that work for volunteering: how to best address the need for partnerships?

Closing of the CEV Symposium
Eva Hambach - CEV President

Reception and boat trip on the canals of Copenhagen
The voluntary sector has seen many developments recently, and gained a well-deserved place on the public agenda through the European Year of Volunteering 2011. However, there is still a long journey ahead for volunteers and organisations that support them to achieve the aim of their efforts: better communities, stronger societies. It is therefore crucial to build partnerships between different sectors, to approach the growing interdependence between the state, business sector and civil society with innovative ideas, and to increase collaboration among different actors in the decision making arena.

In its 23rd Multi-Stakeholders Symposium CEV - the European Volunteer Centre will address the need for increased collaboration through innovative action between voluntary, private and public sectors. Building collaboration for solid societies through volunteering means being able to respond to questions such as:

How can partnerships between agents from different backgrounds be increased?
What tools are available to enhance the quality of such partnerships?
How can we gain new resources and competences through cross-sectoral collaboration?
What can be considered good collective action from the point of view of voluntary organisations, private companies, municipalities and local governments?
What is missing to make innovative cross-sector collaboration possible?

The objectives we are looking forward to achieving in this conference are the following:

1. To provide a highly participatory and interactive space for debates, partnership building and expertise exchange;
2. To identify and explore the best use of tools enhancing cross-sector cooperation;
3. To develop action points for innovation and quality engagement in the voluntary field and society as a whole.

CEV - the European Volunteer Centre is the European network of nearly 100 national, regional and local volunteer centres and volunteer support agencies across Europe, which work together to support and promote voluntary activity. Through our network we reach out to over 17,000 volunteer organisations, associations and other voluntary and community groups. This Symposium is organised in partnership with CEV’s member organisation The National Knowledge & Development Centre of Volunteering in Denmark in the framework of the Danish Presidency of the European Union.

Venue The Symposium will take place at The Danish Parliament, the Folketing, which is located in Christiansborg Palace on the Castle Islet, “Slotsholmen”, a small island in Copenhagen harbor in the heart of the city.

This event is co-funded by the European Commission in the framework of the Europe for Citizens Programme.